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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/089,964	05/08/2002	Giuseppe Alvaro	PI3806USW	9962

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EXAMINER

RAYMOND, RICHARD L

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1624

DATE MAILED: 02/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/089,964

Applicant(s)

ALVARO ET AL.

Examiner

Richard L. Raymond

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 20-114 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 20-33 and 38-114 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 34-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5/8/02
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2/11/03
5/12/03
8/11/03
12/10/03
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Election/Restrictions

2. The requirement for restriction of record is herein withdrawn, as is the requirement for election of species. An action on the merits of all the pending claims follows.

Obviousness-type Double Patenting

3. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

4. Claims 35-37, drawn to method of treating conditions mediated by a tachykinin, are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting

as being unpatentable over claims 1-31 of child U.S. Patent No. 6,642,240. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because it appears that the present mode of action claims encompass the specific treatment of emesis of the patent. Note that a common specification discussing the utilities is involved.

5. Claims 35-37 are further provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over method of use claims 33-37 of copending grandchild Application No. 10/637,825. Again, it appears that the present mode of action claims encompass the specific treatment of acute emesis of the '835 application. This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

6. Claim 34, drawn to pharmaceutical compositions of compounds of formula (I), is provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over composition claims 20-34 of copending grandchild Application No. 10/637,825. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other. Since claims are to be given their broadest interpretation, the use of the term "comprising" opens the present composition to other ingredients including the 5HT₃ antagonists of the '835 application. Note, in fact, that the present specification discloses such additional ingredient. This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

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7. Correction and/or clarification of the above noted overlapping subject matter is requested.

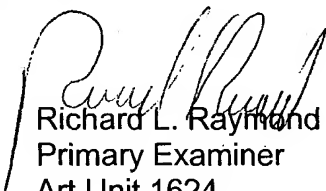
Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 20-33, drawn to compounds of formula (I), claim 38, drawn to processes of making compounds of formula (I) and claims 39-114, drawn to methods of treating specific conditions, are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard L. Raymond whose telephone number is (703) 308-4523. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday (9:30AM-8:00PM)).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mukund J. Shah can be reached on 305-4716. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1235.


Richard L. Raymond
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1624

rr
January 31, 2004